



## Washington State Senate

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**Senator Jim Honeyford**  
Senate Republican Caucus Chair  
15th Legislative District

All of Klickitat and  
Skamania counties,  
south Yakima County  
and southeast Clark County

Chief, Regulations & Procedures Division  
Alcohol & Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau  
ATTN: Notice No. 41  
P.O. Box 14412  
Washington DC 20044-4412

Dear Chief:

For many years I have served on the Washington State Senate Commerce and Labor Committee, including a term as chairman. As a Republican, I heartily believe business is hindered through increased regulations, however, I also believe it is important for consumers to have access to information that helps them make good decisions. It is for this reason, that I strongly encourage you to adopt regulations that allow alcoholic beverage companies to place nutritional information on their labels.

Under current regulations most beer, wine, and distilled spirits labels, may not provide consumers with meaningful nutrition facts. These include: serving size, alcohol per serving, calories, fat and protein content, as well as allergens and ingredients. Alcoholic beverages (with some exceptions) are the only major class of consumable goods that does not provide this information. Furthermore, existing label requirements are so disparate they actually add to consumer confusion.

Nutritional labels provide consumers with the invaluable knowledge of knowing what is going into their bodies. Caloric information, for example, is essential to those watching their weight. Most food packages, soft drink containers, over-the-counter drugs, and even dietary supplements, provide consumers with basic nutritional information on the label. Alcohol should be no different.

I urge TTB to act expeditiously in adopting a regulation that permits meaningful consumer-oriented serving facts on beer, wine, and spirits labels. In the meantime, TTB should allow manufacturers to voluntarily provide this kind of truthful, non-misleading information on labels while the rulemaking process proceeds.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



JIM HONEYFORD  
State Senator  
15<sup>th</sup> Legislative District